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The Urban District Council of Wigston

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

ANNUAL REPORT

- of the -

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year 1958

Incorporating a report on
the sanitary circumstances
of the District prepared by
H. Deamer, M.A.P.H.I.,
Chief Public Health Inspector

R.W. Kind, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

OFFICERS AND STAFF

Medical Officer of Health.

ROBERT WILLIAM KIND, M.R.C.S.,L.R.C.P.,D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent

H. DEAMER, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector

R. SHARPE

(Appointed 1st April, 1958)

Pupil Public Health Inspector

MR. P. N. WATKIN

Clerical Assistant

Miss J. SUTCLIFFE

VITAL STATISTICS

Area in acres 3,432

Rateable Value at April 1st 1958 ..... £193,148

Sum represented by a penny rate £820

Population (mid 1958) 18,600

Number of occupied houses 6270

Additional occupied houses combined with shops 143

Number of houses owned by the Council 1,242

BIRTHS

Live births: Legitimate

Male	200
Female	177
Total	377

Illegitimate

Male	6
Female	5
Total	11

Total Live Births

Male	206
Female	182
Total	388

Stillbirths:

Male	4
Female	6
Total	10

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population 20.8

DEATHS

Deaths: all causes

Male	77
Female	62
Total	139

Deaths from puerperal causes ..... NIL

Deaths of infants under one year

Male	4
Female	3
Total	7

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age

Male	2
Female	3
Total	5

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population 7.4

Infant mortality per 1,000 live births 17.0

Causes of Deaths — Year ending 31st December 1958

Registrar General's Classification		1958		
		Male	Female	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	-	2	2
2.	Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	-	-	-
5.	Whooping cough	-	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8.	Measles	-	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic disease	-	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	2	3
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	4	-	4
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
14.	Malignant neoplasms, lymphatic and other	5	4	9
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
16.	Diabetes	1	-	1
17.	Vascular lesions of the nervous system	13	13	26
18.	Coronary disease, angina	13	7	20
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	2	3	5
20.	Other heart disease	13	10	23
21.	Other circulatory disease	2	4	6
22.	Influenza	-	-	-
23.	Pneumonia	4	4	8
24.	Bronchitis	5	1	6
25.	Other diseases of the respiratory system	1	1	2
26.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	1	-	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-
29.	Hyperplasia of the prostrate	1	-	1
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	2	1	3
32.	Other defined and ill defined diseases	3	5	8
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
34.	All other accidents	2	2	4
35.	Suicide	3	1	4
36.	Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
		77	62	139

CONTROL AND PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

IMMUNISATION

362 children under the age of five years and 3 children over this age received their primary immunisation against diphtheria. A further 199 children received treatment to maintain their immunity.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis continued to make satisfactory progress although acceptances among the higher age groups leaves much to be desired.

BCG vaccination was again offered to children of school leaving age. 53 boys and 48 girls accepted it.

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were two deaths from this disease during 1958. 8 new cases came to notice, their distribution being as follows :-

	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary tuberculosis	5	2	7
Non Pulmonary tuberculosis	-	1	1

14 further cases of tuberculosis came to reside within the District. 12 cases are known to have achieved cure and 6 further cases left the District.

The total number of cases residing in the District at the close of the year was as shown :-

	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary tuberculosis	62	57	119
Non Pulmonary tuberculosis	3	5	8
Totals	65	62	127

POLIOMYELITIS

During the year this District continued to participate in a national survey to assist in determining the extent of the distribution of poliomyelitis infection among young children. This survey involved the collection of weekly specimens of faeces from 260 children of under school age selected at random from the community living within the District. No further survey cases were found to be infected.

OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The following cases were notified :-

Scarlet Fever	4
Whooping Cough	4
Measles	93
Dysentery	4
Acute poliomyelitis (paralytic)	1

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS

Five individuals were brought to notice as not receiving care and attention. One was ultimately admitted to a mental hospital, two to general hospitals and two continue to live at home with care provided by the Home Help Service.

The utmost difficulty appears to be presented to candidates for hospital beds for the chronic sick.

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A REPORT ON

THE SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

OF THE WIGSTON URBAN DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

31st DECEMBER, 1958.

H. DEAMER, M.A.P.H.I.,
Chief Public Health Inspector
and Cleansing Superintendent

1. WATER SUPPLY

The quality and quantity of the water supplied to the district has been satisfactory. The supply is from mains under constant pressure and is soft in character.

Of the 6,270 houses in the district, only 6 houses are supplied by wells and 13 by external stand pipes. 14 of these houses will be the subject of demolition orders in the near future.

5 samples of main water and 4 samples of water from 2 wells were taken during the year for bacteriological examination. All the samples were reported as satisfactory except one. This was from the well of a vacant bungalow included in the 14 premises to be made the subject of demolition orders.

2. SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Every part of the Urban District is sewered with the exception of isolated houses in east Wigston and the properties in the Kilby Bridge area. Periodic nuisance is caused at a block of 4 houses at Kilby Bridge due to the inefficient soakaway receiving the overflow from a common cesspool.

One new private sewage disposal scheme to serve one house was completed during the year.

There are now 8 of these septic tank and filter plants in the district serving 10 premises.

Of the 22 cesspools in the district, three are unaccessible by vehicle, thirteen are emptied by the Council, the remaining six being emptied on to agricultural land by the occupiers of the premises served. It is anticipated that when the cesspool/gully emptying vehicle is obtained a comprehensive cesspool emptying service will be instituted.

One pail closet at a farm was replaced by a water closet during the year.

There are 18 pail closets in the district and approximately 7,000 water closets.

Twenty samples of effluent from a plating plant at a local factory were taken prior to the effluent entering the Council's sewers. In every case the pH value, chromate and cyanide content were found to be within the prescribed limits with the exception of five samples obtained when the plant first operated. These samples were too alkaline. From July, 1958, 32 samples of sewage, sewage effluent and river water were taken from the Council's sewage disposal works and the River Sence for analysis in the Health Department by the Medical Officer of Health.

3. REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The collection of house and trade refuse is undertaken by direct labour and mechanical transport. It is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain an approximate 7 day collection due to the increase in the number of houses and business premises without a corresponding increase in the labour force. I anticipate that in the year 1960/61 when a third 16/18 cu.yard collection vehicle will be needed, the number of refuse collectors will have to be increased. As reported last year, some form of mechanical aid is required to enable the tip to be controlled and operated efficiently and assist in the fighting of fires. Receipts from the collection of "Trade refuse" from shops and trade premises amounted to £713 for the year ending 31st March, 1959 as compared with £665 for the previous year.

Sale of Salvaged Materials

The cash receipts for the sale of these materials has been considerably reduced due to a fall in prices early in the financial year of all salvaged materials. The price of waste paper fell by 33⅓% and tins by over 50%. This loss of revenue was partially offset by reducing from 3 to 2 the number of workmen on the tip where the tins were salvaged and discontinuing the recovery of all but large tins and by an increase of 8½ tons in the amount of waste paper salvaged.

Quantities and Value of Salvage to 31st March, 1959

	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs
Waste paper	115	4	1	14
Textiles	3	11	1	24
Non-ferrous metals		2	0	24
Scrap iron and tins	59	7	0	5
Total	178	5	0	11

The sale of the materials realised £862. 17. 0d.

The dustbin scheme whereby owners of houses can provide bins themselves, purchase them from the Council or receive them on loan from the Council at an annual charge of 7/6d. per annum, continues to work successfully and render unnecessary, frustrating litigation. During the year ending 31st March, 1959, 183 bins were sold and 135 additional premises issued with loan bins. The number of bins on loan is 1,254.

Vehicle Maintenance.

All the vehicles and moveable plant operated by the Council are now repaired, maintained and serviced under the supervision of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

4. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

867 complaints were received

360 concerned infestations by rats or mice

271 concerned defective dustbins

236 concerned other public health or housing matters

749 premises were visited relating to 768 nuisances or defects which were dealt with.

Visits and Inspections

Accumulations	14
Animal Keeping	7
Dustbins	453
Refuse Collections	387
Refuse Disposal Tip	184
Motor Repairs and Maintenance	71
Nuisances	500
Drainage Inspections	23
Moveable Dwellings	59
Clean Air Act	53
Housing	398
Rent Acts	4

Visits and Inspections

Improvement Grants	46
Certificates of Disrepair	32
Overcrowding	11
Verminous premises	49
Verminous persons	7
Water supply and sampling	5
Milk sampling	70
Food sampling	3
Ice-cream sampling	51
Food premises	174
Meat and food inspection	482
Rat & mice destruction (including visits by Rodent Operator)	1,425
Slaughter houses and knackers yards	6
Dairies and milk shops	42
Factories	116
Food poisoning and dysentery investigations	78
Poliomyletis research specimens (98 specimens)	236
National Assistance Act	11
Pet Animals Act	22
Trade Effluent & Sewage samples (21-32)	53
Rag Flock Act	2
Other inspections	648

NOTICES

	Housing	Public Health
Outstanding 1st January	Nil	8
Issued during year	"	377
Complied with during year	"	364
Statutory action necessary	"	2
Outstanding 31st December	"	23

SHOPS ACT, 1950

The provisions of section 38 of the Act relating to the health and comfort of shop assistants are enforced by the Council and relate to:

Sanitary Accommodation
Temperature
Ventilation
Washing facilities
Lighting
Facilities for taking meals

During inspections at food shops regard has been paid to the requirements of the Shops Act which are allied to those of the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955; and whilst action has been taken in respect of contraventions of both the Act and Regulations, the inspections have been recorded under the Food Hygiene Regulations only.

REGULATED BUILDINGS.

There are no common lodging houses or offensive trade establishments in the district.

Five sites were occupied by living vans for varying periods during the year but only one site, for one caravan is licenced. There is also a licenced caravan stationed in the district and six caravans owned by showmen are again wintering in the district on the Burgess Street fairground.

A great deal of trouble was caused on this fairground site during the summer and autumn by it's use as a site for large numbers of caravans owned by itinerant salesmen. Unlike members of the showmens Guild

they would not take advantage of the Council's refuse collection/pail emptying service, were noisy, aggresive, untidy and a nuisance to the occupants of the houses adjacent to the site. Strong measures were taken to obtain vacation of the site and ensure that these undesirable caravanners did not return.

UNCLEAN OR VERMINOUS PREMISES

It is gratifying to report that only three houses and two persons were found to be verminous during the year. One house was infested by bugs and two houses by fleas. One person was found to be affected by fleas and another with head and pubic lice. Effective disinfestation of the premises was carried out, the flea infested person bathed and his clothing dusted with D.D.T powder compound under my supervision whilst the person affected with lice, who was a handicapped female with handicapped parents, was cleansed by her relatives. The flea infestation was traced to poultry brought to his Council house by the occupant, for plucking, dressing and subsequent sale. He is now under periodic supervision and has been requested to discontinue carrying on the business at his house.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Two premises are licensed and conditions at both are reasonably satisfactory. Twenty Two inspections were made during the year. Both premises are lock-up shops and consequently in addition to requiring the provision of fire fighting equipment, the nomination of a responsible person living within a reasonable distance of the premises was asked for to give warning or take other necessary steps in the event of an emergency.

A serious rat infestation was found and dealt with in the vicinity of one of the shops.

The sale of raw and unstained knacker-meat for cat and dog food takes place at both the premises. Knacker-meat may be diseased, and when sold as pet food, may convey disease organisms such as the bacillus of tuberculosis into the homes of the purchasers. Such organisms may be transferred to humans by the pets themselves or to human food from contaminated domestic working surfaces, knives, utensils etc. In my opinion all meat from knackers yards or condemned meat from slaughterhouses should be sterilized before being sold as pet food and I trust that legislation requiring sterilization will be put on the statute book in the very near future.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

There are two premises in the district registered under the Act which makes it unlawful for premises to be used for upholstering articles or stuffing or lining bedding, toys, baby carriages etc. unless they are registered by the local authority. The provisions do not apply to the re-making or re-conditioning of any article. The main purpose of the Act is to prevent unclean materials being used as filling for upholstery etc. A contravention at each of the premises was in respect of failure to keep records of second hand upholstered articles received.

5. THE INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

FOOD HYGIENCE REGULATIONS, 1955 & FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

The majority of the food shops and food preparing premises in the district have now been inspected in detail and brought up to the standard required by the Regulations. I have no hesitation in reporting that the condition of these shops and premises and the equipment, will

compare favourably with those in any other town. The improved conditions however, would not have been attained without, in most cases, the willing co-operation of the food traders.

During the year, two former private slaughterhouses were converted into rooms for the manufacture of sausages and meat products and a sausage manufacturing room and meat pie bakery were reconstructed. Four premises were registered for the manufacture of sausages and/or meat products.

The operators of mobile shops trading in the district have been issued, after inspection of those vehicles, with a Code of Requirements and the three mobile shops operating from premises in Wigston comply with the Code, Regulations & Act and are equipped with hand washing facilities which include a supply of hot water.

Premises inspected	Visits made	Notices served	Notices complied with
Butchers & cooked meat shops	39	6	7
Bakehouses	12		1
Canteens, cafes & restaurants	13	3	2
Dairies	4	1	
Fishmongers & fish and chip shops	11	1	3
Greengrocers	7	4	1
Grocers & general shops	34	14	4
Mobile shops	8	5	1
Slaughterhouses	9	1	1
	137	35	20

ICE CREAM

69 premises are registered for the sale of ice cream. There are no manufacturers in the district.

38 samples were taken during the year, 36 of which were placed in Provisional Grade I and two in Grade 2. Subsequent samples from the premises supplying the Grade 2 samples were placed in Grade I. Iced lollies manufactured by two traders in Wigston were found on bacterial and chemical examination to be satisfactory.

MILK: DAIRIES AND DISTRIBUTORS

	Dairies	Distributors
Number on Register	1	28
Inspections made	4	40
Contravention found	3	1
Contraventions remedied	3	1

New sanitary accommodation including a wash room and mess room and cloakroom have been provided at the local milk pasteurising establishment.

The contravention referred to under "distributors" was in respect of crates of bottled milk left on the public highway by a wholesale dairy for collection by a Blaby distributor operating in Wigston. It is an offence to leave or cause to be left, bottles or cartons of milk on a public highway except upon final delivery on a retail sale.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION)(PASTEURISED & STERILIZED MILK REGULATIONS) 1942
MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION)(RAW MILK REGULATIONS) 1949

Licenses issued:-

	Dealers	Supplementary
Pasteurised	20	5
Sterilized	13	5
Tuberculin Tested	4	1

MILK SAMPLES

72 samples of bottled milk were taken during the year and submitted for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory. 46 of the samples were of Pasteurised milk and 26 of Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) milk. All the samples were reported as satisfactory.

Wigston became a Specified Area on the 6th December, 1955 and consequently only "Pasteurised", "Sterilized" or "Tuberculin Tested" milk may be sold in Wigston by retail.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

There are two licensed slaughterhouses in the area operated by two private firms of butchers. One firm uses its slaughterhouse to serve the needs of its own three local shops only. The other firm buy the bulk of the meat required at their one local shop and rent the slaughterhouse to a firm of Leicester butchers. This latter firm slaughter in the late afternoon and evening on two weekdays and during the day on Sundays.

Neither of the slaughterhouses have a separate hanging/cooling room, or stunning pen. They are situated in the "built up" areas and both are in close proximity to a school. Their continued use may be jeopardised when the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) & The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958 become fully operative.

The good quality of the animals slaughtered in Wigston is indicated by the small amount of meat condemned.

All carcases and offal were inspected and necessitated 419 visits to the slaughterhouses.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	CATTLE EXCLUDING COWS	COWS	CALVES	SHEEP AND LAMBS	PIGS	GOATS	TOTAL WEIGHT IN LBS.
Number Killed	543	3	217	3,849	738	3	
Number inspected	543	3	217	3,849	738	3	
All diseases except Tuberculosis							
Whole carcases condemned				1	4		215
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	51		3	300	55	1	1,192
Percentage of No. inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	9.3%		1.8%	7.8%	7.4%	33.3%	

	CATTLE EXCLUDING COWS	COWS	CALVES	SHEEP & LAMBS	PIGS	GOATS	TOTAL WEIGHT IN LBS
Tuberculosis only							
Whole carcases condemned	2						1,132
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	25	1			3		957
Percentage of No. inspected affected with T.B.	4.9%	33.3%			0.4%		
Cysticoccosis							
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2						3
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration							
Generalised and Totally condemned							

DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD

The following foods were surrendered, condemned and disposed of by deep burial at the Council's tip.

129 tins of meat	141 tins of peas
186 tins various fruits	35 tins of beans
160 tins of tomatoes	31 tins of fish
27 tins of soup	25lbs raisins
16lbs of bacon	

The following cases were investigated during the year:-

String in a loaf of bread

Black oil deposits in a loaf of bread

Dead cockroach in a packet of tea

House fly in the chocolate of an eclair

Foreign objects in food continue to present a major problem. It is apparent that whatever precautions manufacturers etc. of food take to prevent string, nails, cigarette ends gaining access to food, this type of contamination will continue due to careless or irresponsible employees and of course accidents and happenings beyond normal control. At the local biscuit bakery an electronic device is used to detect metallic objects in biscuits as they pass on the conveyer belts. Any metal in a biscuit or on the belt causes the device to operate a metal arm which sweeps off the belt for rejection, approximately 4lbs of biscuits on each side of the contaminated biscuit or area of belt.

KNACKER YARD

There is one Knacker Yard in the district. The required improvements to the distribution channels on the sewage disposal plant have been completed and conditions are generally satisfactory and the business well conducted.

6. RODENT CONTROL

The Council employ a full-time rodent operator, but during the year the need for his services has declined and he has been directed part-time to roadmaking on the tip. Systematic surveys to detect rodent infestations are carried out and eradication measures are based on recommendations made from time to time by the Rodent Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries & Food. Treatment of rat and mice infestation at dwelling houses is carried out free but a charge is made for the Rodent Operator's services at factories and other business premises. During investigation of minor but widespread infestations of rats in South Wigston a "reservoir" infestation was found at the rear of a shop and dealt with resulting in a reduction of the minor infestations. To reduce the possibility of re-infestation 4store sheds were demolished and replaced with rat-proof structures.

Surface Treatments 1st April 1958 to 31st March. 1959

Approximate number of properties to be protected	6,705
No. of properties inspected as a result of:-	
(a) Notification	360
(b) Survey under the Act	77
(c) When visited for some other purpose	1

Number of properties found to be infested

(a) Rats	
Major infestation	3
Minor infestation	199
(b) Mice	
Major infestation	3
Minor infestation	36

(an infestation estimated to exceed 20 rats or mice is classified as a major infestation)

Types of premises infested

(1) Council properties	25
(2) Dwelling houses including Council houses	186
(3) Business premises	29
(4) Agricultural premises	1
Total	241

Sewer Treatment

The 27th and 28th bi-annual treatment of sewers was carried out between the 31st March and 18th April, 1957, and the 29th September and 20th October, 1957. The work

was carried out by the Rodent Operator and one of the Engineer & Surveyor's workmen.

During the spring treatment 320 manholes were pre-baited on the first and fourth day and takes of bait recorded at 78. Similar pre-baiting was carried out during the Autumn treatment and takes recorded at 111 manholes. When there was a take of pre-bait the manhole concerned and both adjacent manholes were poison baited.

During the spring treatment the poison bait used was sausage rusk and zinc phosphide and takes were recorded at 73 manholes. In the autumn the bait was bread mash and Antu, and 111 takes were recorded.

7. HOUSING

The whole of the unfit houses included in the first three year Slum Clearance Programme which ended on the 31st March, 1958, have been dealt with excepting one house and two shops in Bull Head Street, which are to be left until the house is vacated, two houses in Bull Head Street, one of which is used as a place of worship, both of which will be dealt with in 1959, four houses in Long Street which it is anticipated will be included along with the Almshouses in a re-development scheme in 1959/60, and the seven "Diamond Cottages" in Moat Street, which will also be dealt with in a future programme. In addition eighteen houses and one shop included in the second Slum Clearance Programme which ends on the 31st March 1960 have been dealt with during the year. In the first programme there were sixty seven houses and three shops and in the second one hundred and twelve houses and one shop. Fourteen houses and one shop are yet to be dealt with in the first programme and seventy seven houses in the second programme.

No. of Clearance Areas declared during year	7
No of premises involved	33 houses and 2 shops
Individual unfit houses dealt with (Housing Act 1957 secs. 16 & 17)	13
	53 houses & 2 shops

Demolition during year of properties in confirmed Clearance Areas

	Houses	Shops
Area No. 14A		
3, 5, 7, 9 Bushloe End	4	-
Area No. 14B		
15, 17, 19, 21 Bushloe End	4	-
Area No. 18		
1, 3 & 5 Bell Street	2	1
Area No. 19		
9 to 19; 35 to 49 and 10 to 18, North Street (20, 22, 24 & 26 still to demolish)	19	-
Total	29	1

Closing Orders rescinded

The Closing Order made in respect of No. 8 Station Road was rescinded during the year after the necessary works had been completed to render the house fit.

Housing Act 1957- Part IV- Overcrowding

Overcrowding was found at two houses during the year. Representation was made to the Housing Committee to rehouse the family occupying one house and a married son and his family sharing the second house with his parents.

Improvement Grants - Housing (Financial Provisions) Act 1958

Number of applications received	4
Number of applications approved	4
Number of applications refused	Nil
Number of schemes completed during year	5

Three of the completed schemes were at owner/occupied houses, one at a farmhouse occupied by the owners son and another at a station house owned by the British Transport Commission. The works were mainly those involved in providing bathrooms and internal waterclosets but at the farm house, in addition to these works, a septic tank and bio-aerationfilter sewage disposal system was constructed.

In all cases a 50% grant was made.

Certificates of Disrepair - Rent Act, 1957

11 applications for Certificates were received, a reduction of 16 on last years figures. Applicants houses were inspected by the Public Health Inspector and items of disrepair set out on Form G and reported upon to a Sub-Committee of the Council.

No. of applications received (Form G)	11
No. of Certificates issued	5
No. of undertakings received	3
Repairs carried out before Certificate issued	3

New Houses

The following information relating to new houses and Council houses has been obtained from other Departments.

Total No. of applications for Council houses at end of year	585
Applications received during year	164

Programme of Local Authority houses

Erected during year	Nil
In course of erection at end of year	30

Programme of Private Enterprise houses

Erected during year	187
In course of erection at end of year	215

Total No. of Post War Houses completed

Local Authority	895
Private Enterprise	1,314

8. FACTORIES

There are 112 premises on the Register and during the year 93 inspections were made under the provisions of the Factories Act and Sanitary Accommodation Regulations. In general the Sanitary accommodation at the factories is of a very high standard of construction and well maintained.

(a) Inspections

PREMISES	No. of Inspections	Notices Served
Factories with mechanical power	90	34
Building sites etc.	3	Nil

(b) Defects found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Outstanding
Sanitary Conveniences			
a. Insufficient	1	Nil	1
b. Unsuitable or defective	32	13	19
c. Not separate for sexes	2	Nil	2
Total	35	13	22

OUTWORKERS

The only firms employing outworkers are those engaged in the manufacture of hosiery and footwear.

The number of Outworkers employed during the 6 months preceding August 1958 word as follows:-

No. of local firms employing outworkers	20
No. of local outworkers employed	89
No. of outworkers employed outside district	65

No. of outside firms employing local outworkers	19
No. of local outworkers employed by outside firms	128
Total No. of outworkers in the district	117

No instances occurred of outwork being performed in unwholesome premises.

9. CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

In Wigston as in many other towns the principal source of atmospheric pollution is the domestic chimney. Although smokeless solid fuels are sometimes difficult to obtain each householder using such a fuel is making a major contribution towards a cleaner atmosphere and the elimination of fogs, smogs and resultant illnesses. These fuels can be burned in any modern firegrate and even "all night" grates installed in old fireplaces. Any difficulty of ignition can be overcome by the use of a gas poker.

Supplies of solid smokeless fuels are increasing and it is hoped that the number of domestic users will increase proportionately.

23 visits were made to factories during the year under the provisions of the Act

18 inspections of boiler plant were carried out

14 observations were made of smoke emissions from chimneys at 9 premises

9 excessive emissions of smoke were noted. 8 of them being abated by the following means.-

1 ceasing to burn oily rags in a garage slow combustion stove

1 ceasing to burn floor sweepings etc., on an underfeed boiler

1 ceasing to burn leather scraps

1 ceasing to burn leather scraps and rubber cement

1 improved stoking procedure and use of more coke in a coke/coal fuel mix

1 cleaning of flues and grit and spark arrestor in plant using wood shavings and sawdust as a fuel

1 repairs to air ducts.

An electronic device is being fitted in the chimney of a large laundry in the district which will give a visual and audible warning of any excessive emissions of smoke.

APPENDIX 'A'

I am indebted to Mr. G.J. Wootton, Engineer & Surveyor to the Wigston U.D.C. for the following report.

RAINFALL IN 1958

At WIGSTON U.D.C. Sewage Farm

in the County of Leicestershire

Rain Gauge:

Diameter of Funnel	8 inches
Height of top above ground	9 inches
Height of ground above sea level	259 ft.

Month	Total Depth Inches	Greatest Fall in 24 hours Inches	Greatest Fall in 24 hours Date	Number of Days with .01 or more	Number of Days with .04 or more
January	2.60	.94	28	18	11
February	3.23	.78	24	18	13
March	1.50	.34	25	12	9
April	.59	.31	25	7	4
May	2.08	.38	9/15	19	14
June	4.69	.78	22	20	16
July	3.13	.82	1	15	11
August	2.74	.75	18	17	9
September	2.43	.52	29	16	13
October	2.27	.52	3	15	12
November	1.87	.47	1	15	7
December	2.32	.48	9	19	14
Totals	29.45			191	133